Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 USIA-06 DODE-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 COME-00 BIB-01 /041 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TD:GLHUFFCUTT:SP APPROVED BY EB/TD:JJO'NEILL, JR. EUR/EE:JSEYMOUR EUR/CE:KKURZE USIA:IBS/EF:ACASE HQ DA:DAIO/CI:LCL ODOM

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R 080243Z DEC 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BONN INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE USMISSION USBERLIN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, YO, GW

SUBJECT: MEDIUM WAVE BROADCASTING OPERATIONS - YUGOSLAV INTEREST IN RESOLUTION OF FREQUENCY PROBLEMS.

REFS: STATE 294758 AND 294759; BELGRADE 7769 (NOTAL)

- 1. YUGOSLAVIA HAS RAISED MATTER OF INTERFERENCE TO RADIO BELGRADE (683 KHZ) AND RADIO SARAJEVO (611 KHZ) CAUSED BY PRESENT OPERATIONS ON SAME FREQUENCIES BY RIAS HOF AND AFN, RESPECTIVELY. GOY PRESSING FOR RELIEF FROM INTERFERENCE IN BOTH CASES.
- 2. IN CASE OF RIAS INTERFERENCE TO BELGRADE, PROBLEM APPEARS BE RIAS USE OF 683 KHZ DURING NIGHT HOURS. WE HAVE ASKED RIAS CONSIDER POSSIBILITY OF USING 683 KHZ ONLY IN DAYTIME AND SYNCHRONIZING NIGHTTIME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OPERATION ON 989 KHZ. SUCH OPERATION WOULD BE CONSISTENT

WITH FREQUENCY USAGE AS PRESCRIBED FOR 684 AND 990 KHZ (THE NEW PLAN FREQUENCIES) IN FINAL ACTS OF LF/MF CONFERENCE. IF RIAS WOULD MAKE SUCH ADJUSTMENT IN USAGE, GOY HINTS IT PREPARED TAKE RADIO SABAC BROADCASTS OFF OF VOA KAVALA ON 791 KHZ (THUS SIGNIFICANTLY LOWERING PRESENT INTERFERENCE TO VOA KAVALA SERBOCROATIAN BROADCASTS).

- 3. POSSIBLE RESOLUTION OF AFN INTERFERENCE TO RADIO SARAJEVO NOT SO SIMPLE. WE ARE CONCERNED BY GOY THREAT THAT WORK OF U.S. INFORMATION CENTER IN SARAJEVO WOULD BE SEVERELY CIRCUMSCRIBED UNTIL PROBLEM RESOLVED, BUT WE ARE NOT WILLING TO FOREGO THE CONCERNED AFN OPERATIONS. SINCE POWER REDUCTIONS BY AFN HAVE NOT APPEASED THE GOY, ONLY REMEDY APPEARS TO BE A FREQUENCY CHANGE.
- 4. REQUEST EMBASSY INFORM FRG OF ABOVE AND SEEK FRG REACTION TO BOTH SITUATIONS. IN MATTER OF AFN, DOES FRG SEE ANY POSSIBILITY FOR SWITCH FROM 611 KHZ TO 1107 KHZ PRIOR TO PLAN DATE NOVEMBER 23, 1978? IF SO, WHAT WOULD BE EARLIEST DATE? ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: AGREEMENTS, RADIO BROADCASTING, RADIO FREQUENCIES, RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 08 DEC 1976 Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE 298100

Document Number: 1976STATE298100
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GLHUFFCUTT:SP

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Film Number: D760453-0696

From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761261/aaaacaxt.tel

Line Count: 83

Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Office: ORIGIN EB

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2

Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 76 STATE 294758, 76 BELGRADE 7769 Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Authority: BoyleJA

Review Comment: n/a Review Content Flags: Review Date: 28 APR 2004

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 APR 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <19 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>

Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MÁY 2006

Review Media Identifier: Review Referrals: n/a Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006